

MEETING OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
(ALL MEETINGS OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC)

Location: California Department of Food and Agriculture
1220 N Street – Main Auditorium
Sacramento, CA 95814

Contact: Joshua Eddy, Executive Director
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MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 11, 2017

Item
No.

(1) CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order on Tuesday, July 11th at approximately 10:05 a.m., President Craig McNamara presiding.

(2) ROLL CALL

Roll call taken by Joshua Eddy, Executive Director.

Present:

Craig McNamara
Ben Drake
Helene Dillard

Don Cameron
Bryce Lundberg
Donald Bransford

Nancy Casady
Mike Gallo

Absent:

Martha Montoya
Ashley Boren

Eric Holst

Joy Sterling

(3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 6, 2017

Board member Bryce Lundberg moved to approve the minutes of the June 6th meeting. Board member Mike Gallo seconded the motion and a unanimous vote (7-0) carried the motion. Board member Helene Dillard was not present for the vote.

(4) DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE

Secretary Karen Ross provided a brief update to the Board. The update included an announcement on the August 5th Farm Bill Listening Session in Modesto that is being held by the U.S. House Committee on Agriculture. The Secretary reported on recent meetings including the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley, the recent celebration of 100th Anniversary of the Santa Cruz Farm Bureau, and remarks at the Cultivating Change Summit in Sacramento. The Secretary also participated in the ‘Don’t Pack a Pest’ press conference in partnership with USDA/APHIS. Other items included updates on CDFA’s Climate Smart Agriculture programs and upcoming announcements on Healthy Soils Program and Alternative Manure Management.

The update concluded without formal action by the Board.

(5) PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD – CDFA Budget Overview

The Board heard a presentation from a representative of the California Department of Food and Agriculture on the department’s budget for 2017-2018 as contained within the recently enacted California Budget.

Speaker:

- Taylor Roschen, California Department of Food and Agriculture

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

(6) PANEL DISCUSSION – Innovation and Collaboration

The Board held a panel discussion with representatives from Western Growers' Center for Innovation and Technology; Betts Company, and the West Hills Community College on local and regional approaches addressing innovation and collaboration.

Speakers included:

- Dennis Donahue, Western Growers' Center for Innovation and Technology
- Mike Betts, Betts Company
- Dr. Stuart Van Horn, West Hills Community College District

The panel discussion concluded without formal action by the Board.

(7) PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD – CalCannabis Update

The Board had an update on the CDFA's CalCannabis Cultivation and Licensing Program.

Speaker:

- Amber Morris, CDFA's CalCannabis Cultivation Licensing Program

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

(8) BREAK

(9) PANEL DISCUSSION – California Fairs Update

The Board held a panel discussion with representatives from the Western Fairs Associations, the Siskiyou Golden Fair and California State Fair – providing perspective on California's fair industry.

Speakers included:

- John Quiroz, CDFA's Fairs and Expositions Branch
- Stephen Chambers, Western Fairs Association
- Cliff Munson, Siskiyou Golden Fair
- Rick Pickering & Tom Martinez, California State Fair

The panel discussion concluded without formal action by the Board.

(10) OTHER BUSINESS

Following the discussions, the Board took the following actions as part of Other Business.

ACTION: Letter to the Administration on deferred maintenance at California fairs.
Board member Nancy Casady moved to have staff develop a draft letter on the deferred maintenance issue at California fairs; the motion was seconded by Ben Drake and a unanimous vote (8-0) carried the motion.

No further business was conducted.

(11) PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were provided.

(12) CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

The meeting concluded at approximately 2:30 p.m.